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(B) a protein having an amino acid sequence of SEQ. ID No. 2 in the Sequence Listing, wherein the amino acid sequence includes substitution, deletion, insertion, addition or inversion of one or several amino acids and wherein the protein has an erythrose reductase activity.

- 9. (Amended) A protein shown in (C) or (D) below:
- (C) a protein having an amino acid sequence of SEQ. ID No. 4 in the Sequence Listing;
- (D) a protein having an amino acid sequence of SEQ. ID No. 4 in the Sequence Listing, wherein the amino acid sequence includes substitution, deletion, insertion, addition or inversion of one or several amino acids and wherein the protein has an erythrose reductase activity.
 - 10. (Amended) A DNA encoding a protein shown in (C) or (D) below:
- (C) a protein having an amino acid sequence of SEQ. ID No. 4 in the Sequence Listing;
- (D) a protein having an amino acid sequence of SEQ. ID No. 4 in the Sequence Listing, wherein the amino acid sequence includes substitution, deletion, insertion, addition or inversion of one or several amino acids and wherein the protein has an erythrose reductase activity.
- 11. (Amended) The DNA as claimed in claim 10, wherein the DNA comprises one shown in (e) or (f) below:
- (e) a DNA containing a base sequence comprising at least nucleotides Nos. 1 to 399 out of the nucleotide sequence described in SEQ. ID No. 3 in the Sequence Listing.

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(f) a DNA hybridizing with a base sequence comprising at least nucleotides Nos. 1 to 399 out of the nucleotide sequence described in SEQ. ID No. 3 in the Sequence Listing or a probe prepared therefrom under a stringent condition and encoding a protein having an a erythrose reductase activity.

13. (Amended) The DNA as claimed in claim 10, wherein the DNA comprises a DNA shown in (g) or (h) below:

- (g) a DNA containing a base sequence comprising at least nucleotides Nos. 408 to 1077 out of the nucleotide sequence described in SEQ. ID No. 3 in the Sequence Listing.
- (h) a DNA hybridizing with a base sequence comprising at least nucleotides Nos. 408 to 1077 out of the nucleotide sequence described in SEQ. ID No. 3 in the Sequence Listing or a probe prepared therefrom under astringent condition and encoding a protein having an erythrose reductase activity.
 - 17. (Amended) A protein shown in (E) or (F) below:
- (E) a protein having an amino acid sequence of SEQ. ID No. 6 in the Sequence Listing;
- (F) a protein having an amino acid sequence of SEQ. ID No. 6 in the Sequence Listing, wherein the amino acid sequence includes substitution, deletion, insertion, addition or inversion of one or several amino acids and wherein the protein has an erythrose reductase activity.
 - 18. (Amended) A DNA encoding a protein shown in (E) or (F) below:
- (E) a protein having an amino acid sequence of SEQ. ID No. 6 in the Sequence Listing;
- (F) a protein having an amino acid sequence of SEQ. ID No. 6 in the Sequence Listing, wherein the amino acid sequence includes substitution, deletion, insertion, addition



or inversion of one or several amino acids and wherein the protein has an erythrose reductase activity.

- 19. (Amended) The DNA as claimed in claim 18, wherein the DNA comprises one shown in (i) or (j) below:
- (i) a DNA containing a base sequence comprising at least nucleotides Nos. 1 to 399 out of the nucleotide sequence described in SEQ. ID No. 5 in the Sequence Listing.
- (j) a DNA hybridizing with a base sequence comprising at least nucleotides Nos. 1 to 399 out of the nucleotide sequence described in SEQ. ID No. 5 in the Sequence Listing or a probe prepared therefrom under a stringent condition and encoding a protein having an erythrose reductase activity.
- 21. (Amended) The DNA as. claimed in claim 18, wherein the DNA comprises a DNA shown in (k) or (1) below:
- (k) a DNA containing a base sequence comprising at least nucleotides Nos. 408 to 1121 out of the nucleotide sequence described in SEQ. ID No. 5 in the Sequence Listing.
- (1) a DNA hybridizing with a base sequence comprising at least nucleotides Nos. 408 to 1121 out of the nucleotide sequence described in SEQ. ID No. 5 in the Sequence Listing or a probe prepared therefrom under a stringent condition and encoding a protein having an erythrose reductase activity.

BASIS FOR THE AMENDMENT

The specification and Claims 1, 2, 9-11, 13, 17-19, and 21 have been amended to insert the proper sequence identifiers. No new matter is believed to be entered by this amendment.

